

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In the solid state image pickup apparatus, in order to achieve complete transfer of the charge from the photodiode to the floating diffusion area, there is provided a pickup apparatus having a photoelectric conversion element, a transfer switch consisting of a MOS transistor for transferring the signal charge generated in the photoelectric conversion element, a floating diffusion capacitance for receiving the signal charge through the transfer switch, and a reset switch consisting of a MOS transistor for resetting the potential of the floating diffusion capacitance, the device comprising at least a potential setting circuit for generating a voltage different from the power supply voltage, wherein the output of the potential setting circuit is applied as a pulse to the gate of the transfer switch and/or the gate of the reset switch.

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